

Remedium

October 8, 2008

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPR-SR
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

Attn.: Ms. Bonita Lavelle

Subject: OU3 RI/FS of the Libby Asbestos Site
Monthly Progress Report – September 2008

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Dear Bonnie:

This progress report describes work completed during the month of September 2008, in accordance with Section IX of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study dated September 2007. A discussion of the actions taken, sampling results, planned activities, modifications, problems encountered, potential issues, anticipated delays, and solutions developed is provided below. Information by contractor is reported separately.

MWH

A. ACTIONS TAKEN

The following is a summary of the actions taken and progress made during the month of September for Phase II A activities.

- Element 4 continuous precipitation and flow monitoring continued at station LRC-06 throughout September; Element 4 stream flow monitoring at stations LRC-02 and CC-02 resumed on September 8, when ISCO instrumentation was re-installed in the stilling wells of the newly-installed Parshall flumes at these two stations. No rain storms sufficient to cause discernable increased flows at these stations occurred during September, thus no storm-event samples were collected.
- During the last week of August and first week of September, creek channel bottoms were modified immediately downstream of Parshall flumes installed at stations LRC-06 and LRC-02 on Rainy Creek and station CC-02 on Carney Creek, to provide resting pools for fish. Modifications included deepening the channel in "pockets" and placement of boulders, to create areas of quiet water where fish may rest prior to swimming upstream through the flumes. With the resting pools currently in-place, the challenges posed by the Parshall flumes to fish traveling upstream are significantly less than those along many portions of the natural stream channels.
- Continued bi-weekly ambient air monitoring at eight stations at OU3. Rounds 5, 6 and 7 began on September 1, 15 and 29, respectively.

- The second round of Element 1 surface water and sediment collection commenced on September 8 and concluded on September 16. All scheduled samples were collected and submitted to the analytical laboratories.
- The second round of groundwater sampling commenced on September 29 and concluded on October 1. All scheduled samples were collected from four of the five scheduled monitoring wells; samples could not be collected from Well H, which was dry.

B. SAMPLING RESULTS

Through September 2008, LA analytical results and re-issued, lab-corrected LA analytical reports for Phase I samples have continued to be issued by the analytical laboratory. Results for Phase IIA, Element 1 surface water and sediment samples and Element 2 and Element 3 surface water samples for LA analyses continued to be issued by the analytical laboratory through September, 2008. Analytical results for the first five rounds of ambient air sampling had been received by the end of September.

C. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS

The following tasks are scheduled to be performed over the next two months.

- Continue Element 4 automated, continuous precipitation and flow monitoring at stations LRC-06, LRC-02 and CC-02. Perform three rounds of storm-event sampling at stations LRC-06 and LRC-02, if storm events sufficient to increase stream flow by 100 percent (the sampling-event trigger specified in the SAP) occur.
- Continue bi-weekly ambient air sampling through Round 8, scheduled to conclude on October 18, 2008.
- Begin preparation of the Field Sampling Summary Report for Phase II.

D. MODIFICATIONS/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/POTENTIAL ISSUES/ANTICIPATED DELAYS/SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED/IMPLEMENTED

- None.

Parametrix

A. ACTIONS TAKEN

The following is a summary of the actions taken and progress made during the month of September for Phase II C activities.

- Reviewed final Phase II Sampling and Analysis Plan for Operable Unit 3, Part C: Ecological Data and provided requested field sampling forms;
- Participated on field readiness call with EPA, participating laboratories and EPA/Remediation contractors;
- Parametrix Inc. mobilized (equipment ordering, acquisitions, team readiness coordination, etc) to conduct ecological field sampling;

- Parametrix field sampling staff traveled to Libby Site September 28th to initiate ecological sampling activities;
- Initiated ecological field sampling activities (macroinvertebrates, sediment) on Monday September 29th.

B. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS

The following tasks are scheduled to be performed over the next two months:

- Continue and complete Phase IIC ecological sample collection for sediment, macroinvertebrates and water.
- Initiate and complete macroinvertebrate and fish population work. Planned field work completion date: October 10 assuming no unanticipated delays;
- Complete uploading of field sampling data sheets and field notebook information to SRC database;
- Conduct Part 1 sediment toxicity bioassays (and Part 2 depending on Part 1 findings);
- Conduct macroinvertebrate enumeration and identification;
- Initiate preparation of draft data report for fish population and macroinvertebrate population studies.

C. SAMPLING RESULTS

- None yet.

D. MODIFICATIONS/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/POTENTIAL ISSUES/ANTICIPATED DELAYS/SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED/IMPLEMENTED

- None.

If you have any questions regarding this progress report, please call Bob Marriam at (901) 820-2023.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Medler
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cc: Michael DeDen - MWH
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